

[54] **OPTICAL CODE READER SYSTEM**

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[57]

### ABSTRACT

An optical system for reading graphic codes in two dimensions, regardless of their angular orientation or position in a planar aperture where, in one embodiment, the image of a multibit, multicolumn graphic code is illuminated by a light source, slowly rotated by a rotating "K" mirror assembly and rapidly scanned by a rotating mirror drum which sequentially projects each of the multibit columns first onto a slit where the image of each of the rotationally aligned multibit columns is detected by a first electro-optical detector and then after a fixed time delay into an array of electro-optical detectors where the bits in each of the multibit columns are detected. In response to the rotationally aligned image of each multibit column of the graphic code, the first electro-optical detector generates a signal which allows the array of electro-optical detectors to read out the multibit information contained in each column of the graphic code.

**5 Claims, 7 Drawing Figures**